

BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AIRPORT COMMITTEE

January 20, 2022

The Airport Committee of the Burke County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Training Room. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Tommy Nix. Committee members Evans Martin and Art Lively along with County Manager Merv Waldrop, Assistant County Manager Adam Flakes, Tim Fredlund and Wayne Corley of MaesAwyr were also present. Amanda Hill, Olha Karikh, and Brian Walden of MaesAwyr joined via Zoom.

Tim Fredlund updated the Committee on several Airport projects where specifications and criteria decisions would be best decided early. The first item discussed was the fuel facility installation. Mr. Fredlund stated this is complete other than the installation of the tanks, which should be fully completed by the end of February 2022. The POS is installed and on-site with only the power panel needing installation. Fuel testing will need to be completed and fencing will be installed after the tanks are in place. Clarification needs to be made on who is running the power to the POS system. Mr. Fredlund stated the power capacity will be adequate to power both tanks. Mr. Fredlund request a list of prospective fuel vendors for MaesAwyr to do a market check and be ready for delivery for the fuel testing.

Mr. Fredlund informed the Committee that Burke County was on GDOT's annual flying contract list this year to view obstructions for new data. This will inform the County of any new obstructions that may be or become an issue. MaesAwyr has requested Burke County to be placed on the top of the list to include those findings in the current obstruction clearance project.

Wetland Elimination updates were then discussed. Mr. Fredlund stated he, Manager Waldrop and Assistant Manager Flakes have been working on a wildlife survey which is a piece of the US Army Corp of Engineers Regional Permit. This wildlife file would show filling the wetlands would be an improvement of safety to the Airport. The USDA Wildlife Services Department completed a study which should be available soon. This should be the last obstacle prior to receiving the permit and getting the wetlands filled in by February. Mr. Fredlund informed the Committee that as an Airport, the USDA can issue a standing permit to hunt within Airport property for wildlife mitigation purposes.

Manager Waldrop stated EPD had contacted him regarding outstanding land disturbance permits. He stated EPD wanted those permits closed however Manager Waldrop stated the permits needed to remain open until the wetland issue resolved. Mr. Fredlund is to follow up with EPD to ensure they have the updated drawings that were submitted last Fall. Manager Waldrop stated the County plans on filling the wetland in however there are excess funds on the Reeves Contract that could be utilized. Mr. Fredlund went over a map explaining where the fill line for the wetlands would be.

Hanger project updates were then discussed. Mr. Fredlund stated he has been in contact with GDOT and the CatEx exhibit has been updated which shows the project has no adverse impact to

wildlife, wetlands, native species, etc. Mr. Fredlund went over the plans for the hanger / taxi lane anticipated layout. Manager Waldrop inquired if the County needed to be under contract by July 1, 2022, for DOT purposes. Mr. Fredlund stated this does not need to be under contract by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Fredlund stated between the hanger and fencing projects, the designs will be issued under a State / Local contract. GDOT, at this time, is unsure if funding will be available. Specific design plans and options for hangers were then discussed based on anticipated usage as well as discussion on future expansion and possible additional wetland issues so when it came time to bid, it could be for exactly what is wanted and to include the site prep and asphalt at the same time. Discussion was then held on realigning the access road, vault relocation, new beacon installation, sidewalk installation to the hanger site, and additional parking. Upon discussion, it was decided to insulate exterior walls and roof, no ceiling fans, no restrooms, two outlets in each bay, add a bi-fold door as a bid option, and add a roll up door to an 8x10 storage area.

Mr. Fredlund then discussed the fencing project updates. GDOT prefers the north side of Airport Road remain outside of any fencing, in public domain. Fuel farm would have its own fence. Discussion was then held on security issues once aircraft is introduced to include installation of gates and fence height of 8 feet. The fencing project has been split into three phases. Phase 1 will address Airport Road and the frontage. Discussion needs to be had with an adjacent property owner regarding fence / gate placement or Thru-Fencing agreements for road access. Per Amanda Hill, there is a significant amount of liability with gate access for non-airport usage, especially as the Airport grows.

The preferred site for the AWOS is currently pending property acquisition. A secondary site on the north side of the property had been approved by FAA.

Discussion was then held on the closeout of the taxiway / runway project. Mr. Fredlund stated he believed reimbursement to the County is the only thing needed to closeout the project. Brian Walden, MaesAwyr, is to follow up to see if any other documentation is needed prior to closeout.

At 5:25 pm Commissioner Nix motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss property acquisition. Commissioner Lively seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Nix moved to go back into regular session and to authorize the Committee Chairman to execute an Executive Session affidavit on behalf of the Committee. Mr. Martin seconded the motion and it carried with all in favor.

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

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R. Tommy Nix

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Evans Martin

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Q. U. "Art" Lively

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Merv Waldrop, County Manager